

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A conductive composition comprising a ~~silver containing component~~ particulate silver compound and a binder, wherein the particulate silver compound is one or more of silver oxide and silver carbonate, the binder comprises polystyrene, polyethylene terephthalate or one or more materials selected from the group consisting of polyvalent phenol compounds, phenol resins, alkyd resins, polyester resins and epoxy resins, and when said silver containing component comprises a particulate silver compound and the quantity of said binder used relative to 100 parts by weight of said silver containing component particulate silver compound is within a range of from 0.78 to 2.36 parts by weight.

2. (currently amended): A conductive composition comprising a ~~silver containing component~~ particulate silver compound, a reducing agent and a binder, wherein the particulate silver compound is one or more of silver oxide and silver carbonate, the binder comprises polystyrene, polyethylene terephthalate or one or more materials selected from the group consisting of polyvalent phenol compounds, phenol resins, alkyd resins, polyester resins and epoxy resins, and said silver containing component comprises a particulate silver compound and the quantity of said binder used relative to 100 parts by weight of said silver containing component particulate silver compound is within a range of from 0.78 to 2.36 parts by weight.

3. (canceled).

4. (previously presented): The conductive composition according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein an average particle diameter of said particulate silver compound is within a range from 0.01 to 10 μm .

5. (canceled).

6. (previously presented): The conductive composition according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said binder exhibits a reducing action.

7. (currently amended): The conductive composition according to either claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said binder is a fine powder of a thermoplastic resin which is polystyrene or polyethylene terephthalate with an average particle diameter within a range from 20 nm to 5 μm .

8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented): The conductive composition according to claim 2, wherein said reducing agent is one or more of ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol and ethylene glycol diacetate.

10. (previously presented): The conductive composition according to either claim 1 or claim 2, having a viscosity within a range from 30 to 300 dPa·sec.

11. (previously presented): A method of forming a conductive coating comprising the steps of applying and then heating a conductive composition according to either claim 1 or claim 2.

12. (previously presented): The method of forming a conductive coating according to claim 11 wherein a heating temperature is within a range from 140 to 200°C.

13. (previously presented): A conductive coating, produced by a formation method according to claim 11, wherein silver particles are fused together.

14. (previously presented): The conductive coating according to claim 13, having a volume resistivity of $3.0 \times 10^{-5} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ or less.

15. (previously presented): The conductive composition according to claim 3, wherein said particulate silver compound is one or more of silver oxide and silver carbonate.

16. (new): A conductive composition consisting of a particulate silver compound and a binder, wherein the quantity of said binder used relative to 100 parts by weight of said particulate silver compound is within a range of from 0.78 to 2.36 parts by weight, and wherein the particulate silver compound is one or more of silver oxide, silver carbonate and silver acetate.

17. (new): A conductive composition consisting of a particulate silver compound, a reducing agent and a binder, wherein the quantity of said binder used relative to 100 parts by

weight of said particulate silver compound is within a range of from 0.78 to 2.36 parts by weight, and wherein the particulate silver compound is one or more of silver oxide, silver carbonate and silver acetate.

18. (new): A conductive composition comprising a particulate silver compound and a binder, wherein the silver compound consists of one or more of silver oxide and silver carbonate, and the quantity of said binder used relative to 100 parts by weight of said particulate silver compound is within a range of from 0.78 to 2.36 parts by weight.

19. (new): A conductive composition comprising a particulate silver compound, a reducing agent and a binder, wherein the silver compound consists of one or more of silver oxide and silver carbonate, and the quantity of said binder used relative to 100 parts by weight of said particulate silver compound is within a range of from 0.78 to 2.36 parts by weight.